

The Middletown Transcript

EDWARD REYNOLDS, Editor.

MIDDLETOWN, DEL.

SATURDAY MORNING, JAN. 22, 1876.

AN UNLUCKY DAY.—Last Saturday seems to have been exceedingly prolific in disasters and accidents. Besides the drowning of the two boys and the destruction by fire of Mr. Shaller's barns near this town, two serious accidents occurred near Smyrna, by one of which one man, Mr. James Stroud, lost his life, and by the other another man, Abel J. Porter, was most severely injured. These happened at home as it were. In addition to these the papers of Monday teemed with accounts of fatal accidents and murders on that ill-starred day; quite a number of the accidents being the drowning of persons by the breaking of ice on which they were skating.

Mr. AUGUSTUS SCHELL, Chairman of the Democratic National Executive Committee, has issued a call for the Committee to assemble at Willard's hotel, Washington, February 22, 1876, to decide on the time and place for holding the convention of the Democratic party to nominate candidates for President and Vice President. It would seem that, in this centennial year there was only one place for the constitutional party of the country to hold a convention, and that place the city of Philadelphia—the birth-place of the nation—and the time July 1st. The business of the convention could in three days be transacted, the candidates decided upon, and on the Fourth of July announced to the public, with a platform whose first plank should be the Declaration of Independence and the last the Constitution of the United States. The immense concourse of people who will be in Philadelphia on that day could not help feeling pleased with the idea, and the Democratic party gain many strong supporters from Conservative patriots throughout the land who would be favorably impressed with the patriotism that thus celebrated the birth of the nation's new century.

Proceedings of Congress.

SENATE.—*Monday, Jan. 17.*—Session occupied in the presentation of bills and petitions and in discussion of the report of the Committee on Rules.

House.—Mr. O'Brien, of Maryland, presented a bill for the erection of a new postoffice building at Baltimore; also, a bill proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States in regard to free schools and religious freedom. Mr. White, of Kentucky, moved for a suspension of the rules, so as to bring a general amnesty bill before the House. The motion was lost by a vote of 165 to 110, nays, two-thirds not voting in favor. Mr. Holman wanted to suspend the rules and pass a resolution declaring it "unwise and inexpedient to fix a specified period for the resumption of specific payment, and asking for the repeal of the resolution of 1874. Rejected by 112 for 158 against. The bill appropriating \$1,500,000 towards the Centennial was called up, and Mr. Hardenbaugh, of New Jersey, addressed the House in favor of it.

SENATE.—*Tuesday, Jan. 18.*—Mr. Thurman presented the credentials of James B. Eustis, claiming a seat as Senator from Louisiana. On motion of Mr. Dixey, of Arkansas, the Committee on Postoffices was instructed to inquire into the expediency of restoring the franking privilege. A resolution was adopted, on motion of Mr. Edmunds, of Vermont, requesting the President to furnish the Senate with copies of correspondence with other governments in regard to the Centennial Exhibition.

House.—Mr. Proctor Knott, of Kentucky, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a constitutional amendment making the President ineligible to a second term. Bills were passed extending the time for presenting claims before the Alabama Commission three months and the time for stamping un-stamped instruments until Jan. 1, 1877. Mr. Williams, of Wisconsin, introduced a supplementary amendment to Mr. Blair's Constitutional amendment, prohibiting the appropriation of public funds to any sectarian school or institution."

SENATE.—*Wednesday, Jan. 19.*—Mr. Dennis, of Maryland, presented resolutions of the Baltimore Board of Trade in favor of an appropriation by Congress in aid of the Centennial Exhibition. Mr. Morton, of Indiana, began one of his characteristic "bloody shirt" tirades about the alleged frauds in the Mississippi election, rehearsing his oft-told stories of murder, intimidation, &c., but yielded the floor for the consideration of Executive business. Mr. Davis' resolution for an investigation of the accounts of the Treasurer was discussed, but no action taken.

House.—The session was pretty much taken up with the discussion of the Centennial Appropriation bill.

News Items.

James Stephens, late head centre of the Fenian Brotherhood of the United States, died in Paris recently. At one time he created quite a sensation in this country.

Mrs. Eliza Johnson, widow of the late ex-President Johnson, died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Patterson, near Greenville, Tenn., on Sunday last in her 65th year.

Governor Harriman, of Pennsylvania, was inaugurated into a second term of office, at Harrisburg, on Tuesday. Various political clubs and military companies attended the inauguration and made a brilliant display.

The jury at Indianapolis, on Saturday, in the case of the internal revenue officer, Mr. McGriff, returned a verdict of guilty on nine of the twelve counts against him, convicting him of receiving bribes, making false returns, conspiracy, &c., in connection with the whisky ring.

(Communicated.)
The P. A. & P. Association.

Meeting Last Saturday.

Mr. Editor.—Saturday, Jan. 15th, 1876, was to our great centre, Middletown, one of the most eventful days of the Centennial year, long to be remembered. The sun arose in all its splendor, fringed with crimson gold, yet like other things of this world it was doomed to have its splendor dimmed. It soon became overcast with clouds that were ominous; for the news soon came upon us, like a clap of thunder, that two of our young men had been drowned. Next came the alarm of fire when every person seemed to be almost paralyzed, wondering what would come next. The hour of two o'clock P. M., was the time set for the meeting of the Peninsula Agricultural and Pomological Association, which turned out to be the great event of this day. Many gentlemen from a distance, strangers among us, yet members and stockholders in the Association, were on hand, a thing to which our citizens were accustomed to see upon such occasions, and at once shrouded the minds of our people with doubt. The sight of such a winding sheet convinced them that some great catastrophe was about to happen by which our great institution, the P. A. & P. A., was to be broken up and entirely annihilated. Our gentlemanly Chairman, Mr. R. Cochran, Esq., at once called the meeting to order, when the minutes of the last meeting were read and declared approved. The reports of the Secretary, Treasurer, and Board of Managers were read, some approved and others referred to appropriate committees. A resolution was offered and adopted, appointing a committee upon land for permanent location of fair ground, when there are so in our midst the ghost that had been embroiled in the winding sheet. It was nothing more than a poor Granger, yet its sudden appearance in our midst almost took all the thunder out of our great guns. It made its appearance in the shape of a Resolution offered by Professor E. D. Porter, of the Delaware State Agricultural College: "Resolved that it is the sense of the meeting of stockholders of this association, that a premium of one hundred dollars be given to any Grange of this Peninsula that brings to our next exhibition the best and greatest display of articles." The Prof. presented the presenting of his resolution with a few remarks in his easy, happy and pleasant manner, which had the effect to apparently strike dumb those that were present, for none attempted to reply. The question was called at once. The chairman not being able to decide which side had carried the question and every thing being in an apparent uproar, Bill Dean arose and, in his usual blunt manner, asked the Chairman to allow him to make a few remarks, which was granted. After he had been talking some ten minutes some person in the crowd had so far recovered from his fright as to discover that Dean was out of order and called him to order, when he at once dropped into his seat, though he had been seated, not before he had told some plain truths and which, upon some of our people, were not without effect, but others it set raving, judging from their actions. When the question was again called and the chairman decided it was lost. Then our gentlemanly Secretary, J. Thos. Budd, Esq., arose and offered the following: "Resolved that the board of managers be requested to take into consideration the propriety of offering a premium of One hundred dollars at our next exhibition to any Grange upon this Peninsula whose members take the greatest number of premiums." It was not until this period of the proceedings that the storm broke forth in all its fury, when His Excellency, the Governor, in an excited manner, said that if he knew any two resolutions just the same could be acted upon, or retained at the same meeting. Now I am satisfied that ours is a good Governor but when he undertakes to instruct Grangers in Parliamentary usages he may possibly get beyond his depth. He said this was not a Grangers' Association and they did not want any thing to do with Grangers; the next thing he expected was that Masons and Odd Fellows would be asking for premiums. Prof. Porter again arose and replied to his Excellency, which appeared to arouse the storm to greater fury when Samuel Townsend, Esq., in his usual lamblike style expressed his views. He must not have been well for he soon subsided apparently overcome by his great efforts. At this time, appearing to take advantage of the opportunity, up jumped that everlasting talker, Dean. He got the floor apparently having revived from the effects of that shot which leveled him on a previous occasion, and went at it again as though nothing had happened, and he did put in some most telling licks. He said as a Granger, he had but one object and that was the elevation and general welfare of the American Agriculturalists to their true position in society, and he thought that making the P. A. and P. A. what its name indicated was one of the means of accomplishing his desired object but by allowing it to degenerate into a Jockey Club race course, it only tended to demoralize its members, and in the end would break up the organization. R. Cummins, Esq., in his gentlemanly and pleasant manner, spoke for sometime and replied to the remarks of Mr. Townsend in regard to having to pay Grangers to come to the exhibition, by asking were not the Horse Jockeys paid to come when a premium of \$800 was offered for a single race and which money was taken away by a single horse? and he wanted to know how much that had benefited the Peninsula Agriculturalists? Why not pay grangers? After Mr. C. had concluded, Mr. H. A. Nowland, our able Representative to the Legislature, announced himself as a granger but said as he was an interested party he could not vote for the resolution. After which the question was called. Then a division was called for and those in favor of the resolution were required to go into the room with the chairman, and about a dozen men, mostly strangers and many of them from a distance, were all who responded; but when the negative was called, then it was that Middletown knew her true interests, and knowing them, dare maintain them. The next business in order was the election of officers, which went smoothly until that everlasting tumult of a Dean came to vote and voted 5 shares for himself and then

offered to vote 5 shares for the New Grange, as its representative. Having subscribed and paid for the stock in the name of the grange, he held the certificate in his hand, and here it was that a difficulty arose, by one of the election officers, a man more verdant than the name which he claims would indicate, object in to Dean voting this stock, which at once put Dean upon his mettle and he said: "as the association by the acts of its officers had taken his money they were bound either to take his vote or give him back his money." The latter is one of the things our people are not guilty of but Dean was persistent for one or the other being done. He was independent and did not appear to care which. The officers and many of the stockholders present were in favour of receiving the votes, but the verdant man, like a Green Mountain remained firm to the position which he had assumed. Finally the votes were taken regardless of his dissent. Another little incident that came under the eye of your correspondent was the following: "An elderly red faced Englishman (whose head looked as though it wanted a new covering of thatch) who had been intently watching the proceedings, happened to say if the thing went on as it was going to-day the whole thing would be played out and in four years, which remark seemed to raise the ire of a man present, but, judging from his quick speaking manner, was a great Walker. This man with pocket-book in hand, wanted to put up his money out, but this old Englishman declined to risk his money. The forgoing are some of the incidents that presented themselves to the eyes of your correspondent as a few of the events of an ever eventful day long to be remembered in the annals of Middletown."

A SOJOURNER AND LOOKER ON.

(Communicated.) Nineteen Sheriff's Sales.

The sheriff of New Castle county publishes this week, in one paper, nineteen sales of real estate. One by one the homes of the poor are being sold from them. No matter how many days and weeks of incessant toil; how much pinching and saving has been endured in the earnest strife to obtain a permanent home; no matter if from the sole only enough be obtained to cover the mortgage (held by some money broker who in all probability advanced the cash generously at twelve per cent. discount and six per cent interest); no matter if the eight or ten hundred dollars saved and paid by the laborer be sacrificed and he and his little family turned out of doors, the mortgage must be paid, that the lender, already rich, may grasp more wealth and invest it in other loans to carry foreclosed and realize regardless of the sufferings and misery entailed upon the victims of his greed. "How long, O Lord! how long," will be the cry of hundreds and thousands of suffering humanity that day after day are struggling blindly or hoping against hope for some measure of relief. Business is dull, labor is unemployed, and the incessant "tramp, tramp, tramp" of the homeless, weakly passing from place to place seeking work, is the best evidence that Mr. Davis' resolution of inquiry into the national finances is of more and deeper interest to the country than Quixotic speeches from Presidential aspirants on amnesty. Congress should adopt some measures of financial relief to the country at large that would employ more labor and give less work to the sheriff; that would recall the wandering tramp from his weary pilgrimage and lighten the load of care from the heart of many a helpless widow and orphan child who scarce can tell where their next meal is to come from. Willing to work and none to be had—is the daily cry, and yet no effort is being made to give relief, and the red flag of the sheriff flutters gaily in the breeze. AXON.

[Much of the trouble and distress of which our correspondent complains is too often traceable to the acts of the distressed persons themselves aided in vast measure by the ruinous credit system which pervades to such an almost unlimited extent among the agricultural portions of our peninsula, and, indeed, throughout the land. No cash was ever sold but by the Sheriff. If men would be satisfied to live within their incomes, and go no further in debt than they knew they could pay; if business on the means they have, instead of borrowing money at 12 per cent., to extend their operations, the Sheriff would have much less work to do. To his last proposition that the "weary tramps are willing to work and no work can be had," a rather derogatory answer is found in the reports of strikes by the operators in large factories, etc. Though the prices for all kinds of manufactured goods have returned to almost their ante-bellum condition the workmen have never been willing that their wages should be subjected to a like reduction, but insist in endeavoring to keep them up to the high standard attained during the war, and whenever the employer seeks to make a reduction they "strike" and try by the means of unions, &c., to force a compliance with their demands. Then many of them quit and complain that they cannot get work when in reality they can get work, but not at their prices.]

(Communicated.) Concerning Church Worship.

Mr. Editor.—I have noticed that in our churches there is a practice among the majority of those attending service (including members) of abruptly turning their heads at the entrance of every latecomer. What makes the practice worse, it is done when the pastor is in the most interesting portion of his sermon, and the interruption is often so great that he is obliged to stop his discourse for a minute or two. Some persons, especially ladies, go to church and make it a point to take a seat at the end of the pew next to the aisle, and thus obstruct the other portion of the pew from the use of gentlemen, for if one grows past them he is invariably remembered as the clumsiest man in the world. Can't we have some general change?

A. H. RUSSELL.

N. B.—Repairing done promptly and at moderate prices. Jan 22-3m

SOMETHING NEW.

Carriage Harness \$10.00 per Set.

A. H. RUSSELL.

Having located in Middletown, for the purpose of carrying on the Saddle and Harness Making business, will keep constantly on hand to make to order all kinds of Carrige, Waggon, Cart and Plow Harness, Saddles, Bridles, Hobbles, Whips, Bits, Horse Boots, Trunks, Trace and Halters, Etc., &c., all of which will be sold as low as can be bought in the city. Call at the store room on Main street, opposite the Pennington machine shop examine and be convinced.

A. H. RUSSELL.

N. B.—Repairing done promptly and at moderate prices. Jan 22-3m

CENTENNIAL HOTEL,

CECILTON, MARYLAND.

I respectfully inform the public that I have recently opened the above house, and offer to them good accommodation at all times, both in number and quality, and a large number of horses and carriages to hire at all hours.

N. B.—An Oyster and Terrapin Supper will be given on Thursday Evening, January 27, 1876. Tickets, \$1.00.

JOHN W. ROBINSON.

Jan 22-1m

LOST.

On the road between Taylor's Corner and Middletown, a lady's FUR BOA. By returning the same to the owner the finder will confer a favor and receive a proper reward.

L. B. LEE,

Middletown, Del.

Jan 22-2m

ALEXIS.

REYNOLDS & CO.

The Middletown Transcript

W. PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY BY
Edward Reynolds.

TERMS—\$2 a year, payable in advance.

No paper discount will be allowed, except at the option of the publisher.

RATES FOR ADVERTISING:

Transient advertisements of less than one cent in space will be charged at the rate of ten cents a line for first insertion, and five cents per line for each additional insertion.

Rates for one inch and over, as follows:

| Space. | 1 wk. | 1 mo. | 3 mos. | 6 mos. | 1 year. |
|---------|-------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 1 inch. | \$ 75 | \$ 150 | \$ 300 | \$ 500 | \$ 800 |
| 2 " " | 125 | 250 | 450 | 750 | 1200 |
| 3 " " | 175 | 350 | 600 | 1000 | 1500 |
| 4 " " | 225 | 450 | 800 | 1200 | 2000 |
| 5 " " | 350 | 700 | 1500 | 2500 | 4000 |
| 6 " " | 600 | 1200 | 1800 | 3000 | 5000 |
| 7 " " | 1200 | 2000 | 3500 | 6000 | 10000 |

Business Locals and Special Notices one cents a line for each insertion. Obituaries charged at the rate of 5 cents a line or eight words. Marriages and Deaths inserted free.

Terms: Cash in advance, invariably.

SATURDAY MORNING, JAN. 22, 1876.

Local and State Affairs.

Items of Local Interest.

The regular monthly meeting of the Trustees of the Poor of this county will be held at the Almshouse on Wednesday, 28th instant.

Col. Clayton is hauling the bricks for the new addition he intends to put to his wife's property, on the corner of Main and Broad streets.

Henry Clayton, Esq., has taken out letters of administration on the estate of Nathan Frame, late of St. George's hundred, deceased. See notice.

John H. Rodney, Esq., as trustee, advertises several valuable farms and other real estate to be sold at public sale within the next three weeks.

George Cannon, of Wilmington, in attempting to jump off the cars while they were in motion fell and knocked two of his front teeth out and otherwise hurt himself.

John W. Robinson, proprietor of the Centennial Hotel, at Cecilton, Md., advertises an Oyster and Terrapin supper at his house on the evening of January 27. Tickets, \$1.

Frank Wilson, the unfortunate lad who was accidentally drowned on Saturday last, was not a member of the Middletown band, as was erroneously stated by a Wilmington paper.

At the annual Convention of the Grand Chapter of the State of Delaware, held in Wilmington on Wednesday last, Mr. J. Thos. Budd, of this town, was elected Deputy Grand High Priest.

At the monthly meeting of the Mutual Loan Association of Middletown, held on Tuesday evening last, funds sold at 80 cents per share premium. This Association is conducted on the new plan.

Miss Hitch, a young lady of Laurel, was badly but not fatally burned by her dress catching fire on Monday of last week. Her body was burned to a crisp, and nearly all her clothes burnt off her.

The postoffice at Waplesville, Sussex county, has been discontinued, because the postmaster failed to make quarterly returns. It would have been more sensible to have "discontinued" him and let the office go to somebody else.

The ladies of St. Clement's Church, Mays, Md., (of course, the gentlemen have nothing to do with it) are going to give a "Centennial Tea Party" in the Railroad depot at that place on the evening of Thursday, January 27.

Mr. H. A. Russell has opened a harness store in this town, in the store opposite Pennington's machine shop, and has on hand a large and excellent stock of harness, saddles, bridles, lap covers, trunks, etc., which he offers at low rates and invites an inspection of. See advertisement in another column.

Masonic Elections.

At a meeting of Adoniram Chapter R. A. M., of this town, held on Tuesday evening, 19th instant, the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: High Priest, J. T. Budd; King, John B. Roberts; Scribe, J. L. Gibson; Treasurer, A. G. Cox; Secretary, John W. Jolls.

Removal of Buildings.

R. A. Cochran, Esq., began the work of removing the old buildings formerly occupied by Messrs. Wm. L. Bucke & Son, as foundry, wheelwright, and blacksmith shops, from their present location to a lot on Green street, near the railroad, and adjacent to the new buildings recently erected by Messrs. Bucke & Son. This will put nearly all of the agricultural implements works at that end of the town. The removal of these old buildings will leave vacant some very handsome lots on Main street, which Mr. Cochran will, no doubt, offer for sale for building purposes.

Serious Accident.

Abel L. Porter, a farmer living near Green Spring station, about three miles from Smyrna, on the Delaware railroad, was thrown from his barn last Saturday afternoon, while returning home from Smyrna, and badly hurt. One leg was broken, a bone in one shoulder. The accident occurred while Mr. Porter was driving over the bridge across Duck creek, caused by the deerborn running upon the abutment. It was reported here that Mr. Porter was killed, but the Smyrna Times says that he is still alive, and attended the injured man says, with proper care, he may recover.

A Belligerent Chicken Thief.

On Thursday night of last week, a Wilmington negro, named Bill Johnson, went out to the farm of Mr. Wm. W. Strong, near Hare's corner, for the purpose of providing a supply of poultry from the gentleman's hen roost. The master made by the disturbed chickens attracted the attention of Wm. R. Strong, a son of the above-named gentleman, who, discovering the negro in the hen house, locked the door, ran and got his gun and returned, accompanied by his brother, to the poultry house. Mr. Strong attempted to open the door while his brother prepared to give the thief the contents of his gun barrels. But the negro was too quick for them, and, bursting open the door, he rushed out and suddenly hurled a brick bat at the head of Mr. Strong, knocking him down and badly hurting him. Miss Strong then snatched up her brother's gun and fired at the retreating negro but failed to hit him and he escaped. On Saturday morning he was captured by Officer Brinkley, of the Wilmington police force, but not without a hard fight, as this more than usually courageous "colored trooper" fought nobly. The free use by the officer of his blackjack had the desired effect however, and the belligerent chicken thief was carried to the police station, where he was given a hearing and subsequently locked up, to await the result of the injuries of Mr. Strong.

Large Fire—Farm Buildings Destroyed.

A disastrous and very destructive conflagration occurred upon the home farm of S. Y. Shalbross, Esq., near Armstrong's station, on the Delaware railroad, last Saturday afternoon, by which all his out-buildings, ex-

cept the granary, were completely destroyed. The fire originated from a wagon with which a son of Mr. Shalbross had been shooting at pigeons in the roof of the barn. It fell upon some straw lying in front of the barn door, which ignited and the fire spread so rapidly that the buildings were all soon in flames, and despite the strenuous efforts of neighbors who hastened to the scene were speedily reduced to ashes, with a large portion of their contents. The burned buildings were two barns, one 90x32 feet, the other 118x32, cattle sheds, fences, etc. Besides these, there were large quantities of hay, straw, fodder, two peach wagons, carriage harness, two sheep, one lamb and one calf, which were burned. The burned buildings, sheds, etc. covered nearly half an acre of ground, and were very fine ones. The granary, which stood quite near the buildings, was saved with great difficulty and hard work, by keeping carpets saturated with water over the roof. Mr. Shalbross was in Philadelphia at the time, and, of course, knew nothing of the fire until he reached home. He estimates his loss at \$7,000, with only \$1,500 insurance in the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company of St. Georges and Appoquinimink Hundreds.

A Sad Accident—Two Boys Drowned.

A sad catastrophe occurred near this town on Saturday last. A number of young men and boys were skating on Drummond's mill pond, about a mile from town, and two boys, Curtis Layton and Frank Wilson, accidentally broke through the ice and were drowned. The particulars of the misfortune, as far as we have been enabled to ascertain them, are substantially as follows: After skating for some time on the upper and narrower portion of the pond, where the ice was thick and strong, a number of the boys began to point a hole in the ice, where the ice was not sufficiently thick to bear their weight. They then began, as all boys are apt to do, to banter each other as to who would venture furthest on the weak and cracking ice. After several ventures young Wilson, being a little lighter than his companions got out beyond a point where the ice would bear, which gave way, plunging him into water some ten or twelve feet deep. At the same time Layton, who was not far from him, broke in, as did also Eddie Clayton, son of Charles E. Clayton. Layton soon managed to get out and at once started to crawl, on his hands and knees, over the treacherous ice to the assistance of his companion. Poor Wilson was now calling pitifully for help. Hearing his cries, Leslie Schreitz, who, in the mean time had run to the aid of Clayton, hastened toward him as far as the depth of the water, the ice breaking under him, would admit, but was unable to render any assistance. Young Layton, however, had succeeded in reaching the drowning boy and stretching out his hand to him, which the other at once caught. Unable to bear the weight of both the ice gave way and both boys sank to the bottom of the pond together, never again to rise. A few bubbles arose to the surface alone telling their sad fate. The news soon spread and several persons hastened to the scene, and procuring a boat and grapping hooks worked their way through the ice and raised the bodies, which were found within a few feet of each other. As a singular coincidence, it is said that the iron tools held each in the same manner and in the same place, under the ice.

Curtis Layton was the son of a widow lady of Middletown, upon whom the blow fell with much severity, as she is in somewhat straitened circumstances.

Frank Wilson was the son of Mr. W. W. Wilson, also of Middletown, and was the fourth of four children. Both boys were of about the same age. Layton would have been 16 had he lived one day more, and Wilson would have been 16 in April next.

Knowing Mrs. Layton's circumstances some pitying gentlemen started the circulation of a subscription paper, and a sum sufficient to decently inter the deceased boy was speedily raised.

THE FUNERAL.

On Tuesday morning, notice of the funeral having been announced in the various churches on Sunday, the bodies of the unfortunate victims were buried. The children of the Methodist Sunday School, of which the deceased boys were both scholars, attended the double funeral in a body, and it was a pitiful sight to look upon, as the long procession of children preceded by the two coffins walked slowly down the street to the M. E. Cemetery. Appropriate services were held in the church, conducted by Rev. Drs. Matlock and Patton, of the Methodist and Presbyterians, the church, the house being crowded with a sympathetic audience. After which the remains were laid away in the same grave, in the burial lot of Mr. Wilson. So they were companions in life, in death they were not.

Curious Layton was the son of a widow lady of Middletown, upon whom the blow fell with much severity, as she is in somewhat straitened circumstances.

Frank Wilson was the son of Mr. W. W. Wilson, also of Middletown, and was the fourth of four children. Both boys were of about the same age. Layton would have been 16 had he lived one day more, and Wilson would have been 16 in April next.

Knowing Mrs. Layton's circumstances some pitying gentlemen started the circulation of a subscription paper, and a sum sufficient to decently inter the deceased boy was speedily raised.

THE FUNERAL.

At a meeting of Adoniram Chapter R. A. M., of this town, held on Tuesday evening, 19th instant, the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: High Priest, J. T. Budd; King, John B. Roberts; Scribe, J. L. Gibson; Treasurer, A. G. Cox; Secretary, John W. Jolls.

Removal of Buildings.

R. A. Cochran, Esq., began the work of removing the old buildings formerly occupied by Messrs. Wm. L. Bucke & Son, as foundry, wheelwright, and blacksmith shops, from their present location to a lot on Green street, near the railroad, and adjacent to the new buildings recently erected by Messrs. Bucke & Son. This will put nearly all of the agricultural implements works at that end of the town. The removal of these old buildings will leave vacant some very handsome lots on Main street, which Mr. Cochran will, no doubt, offer for sale for building purposes.

Serious Accident.

Abel L. Porter, a farmer living near Green Spring station, about three miles from Smyrna, on the Delaware railroad, was thrown from his barn last Saturday afternoon, while returning home from Smyrna, and badly hurt. One leg was broken, a bone in one shoulder. The accident occurred while Mr. Porter was driving over the bridge across Duck creek, caused by the deerborn running upon the abutment. It was reported here that Mr. Porter was killed, but the Smyrna Times says that he is still alive, and attended the injured man says, with proper care, he may recover.

A Belligerent Chicken Thief.

On Thursday night of last week, a Wilmington negro, named Bill Johnson, went out to the farm of Mr. Wm. W. Strong, near Hare's corner, for the purpose of providing a supply of poultry from the gentleman's hen roost. The master made by the disturbed chickens attracted the attention of Wm. R. Strong, a son of the above-named gentleman, who, discovering the negro in the hen house, locked the door, ran and got his gun and returned, accompanied by his brother, to the poultry house. Mr. Strong attempted to open the door while his brother prepared to give the thief the contents of his gun barrels. But the negro was too quick for them, and, bursting open the door, he rushed out and suddenly hurled a brick bat at the head of Mr. Strong, knocking him down and badly hurting him. Miss Strong then snatched up her brother's gun and fired at the retreating negro but failed to hit him and he escaped. On Saturday morning he was captured by Officer Brinkley, of the Wilmington police force, but not without a hard fight, as this more than usually courageous "colored trooper" fought nobly. The free use by the officer of his blackjack had the desired effect however, and the belligerent chicken thief was carried to the police station, where he was given a hearing and subsequently locked up, to await the result of the injuries of Mr. Strong.

Large Fire—Farm Buildings Destroyed.

A disastrous and very destructive conflagration occurred upon the home farm of S. Y. Shalbross, Esq., near Armstrong's station, on the Delaware railroad, last Saturday afternoon, by which all his out-buildings, ex-

purchasing grounds for the permanent location of the exhibition buildings. Adopted; and Messrs. R. H. Cummins, E. W. Lockwood, H. A. Maxwell, H. C. Williams and E. G. Fenimore appointed as said committee.

Prof. Porter presented the following resolution:

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this Board that the bird had pecked at its first owner's hand, as stated above, and it was concluded that it had contrived to peck at the bird at that moment.—*Cumberland Daily News.*

A similar resolution was also offered by Mr. J. T. Budd.

Mr. Porter's suggestion met with a most determined opposition and was denounced by several gentlemen in somewhat severe terms, and a lively discussion took place between Messrs. Porter, Townsend, Dean, Gov. Cochran and others. One gentleman loudly "objected to all debate" and tried to imitate the old Republican majority in Congress by "calling the previous question." But little attention however was paid to him. At length a vote was taken, a division demanded, and finally the question decided overwhelmingly in the negative.

The election for officers followed and, with the exception of a little unpleasantness caused by one of the tellers objecting to receiving the vote of the Newark Grange at the hand of Wm. Dean, who claimed a right to vote on stock certificates which he had, passed off good naturally, but with some little excitement on account of many friends of Mr. Budd, who had announced a determination to retire from the secretaryship, insisting on attempting to retain him. This gave rise to the voting of two tickets, but the regular ticket was elected and the old board all retained except Mr. Budd, in whose place Mr. J. B. Clarkson was chosen Secretary. Mr. E. C. Fenimore was also added to the Board in place of Wm. R. Cochran, Esq., elected President.

The election for officers followed and, with the exception of a little unpleasantness caused by one of the tellers objecting to receiving the vote of the Newark Grange at the hand of Wm. Dean, who claimed a right to vote on stock certificates which he had, passed off good naturally, but with some little excitement on account of many friends of Mr. Budd, who had announced a determination to retire from the secretaryship, insisting on attempting to retain him. This gave rise to the voting of two tickets, but the regular ticket was elected and the old board all retained except Mr. Budd, in whose place Mr. J. B. Clarkson was chosen Secretary. Mr. E. C. Fenimore was also added to the Board in place of Wm. R. Cochran, Esq., elected President.

The election for officers followed and, with the exception of a little unpleasantness caused by one of the tellers objecting to receiving the vote of the Newark Grange at the hand of Wm. Dean, who claimed a right to vote on stock certificates which he had, passed off good naturally, but with some little excitement on account of many friends of Mr. Budd, who had announced a determination to retire from the secretaryship, insisting on attempting to retain him. This gave rise to the voting of two tickets, but the regular ticket was elected and the old board all retained except Mr. Budd, in whose place Mr. J. B. Clarkson was chosen Secretary. Mr. E. C. Fenimore was also added to the Board in place of Wm. R. Cochran, Esq., elected President.

The election for officers followed and, with the exception of a little unpleasantness caused by one of the tellers objecting to receiving the vote of the Newark Grange at the hand of Wm. Dean, who claimed a right to vote on stock certificates which he had, passed off good naturally, but with some little excitement on account of many friends of Mr. Budd, who had announced a determination to retire from the secretaryship, insisting on attempting to retain him. This gave rise to the voting of two tickets, but the regular ticket was elected and the old board all retained except Mr. Budd, in whose place Mr. J. B. Clarkson was chosen Secretary. Mr. E. C. Fenimore was also added to the Board in place of Wm. R. Cochran, Esq., elected President.

The election for officers followed and, with the exception of a little unpleasantness caused by one of the tellers objecting to receiving the vote of the Newark Grange at the hand of Wm. Dean, who claimed a right to vote on stock certificates which he had, passed off good naturally, but with some little excitement on account of many friends of Mr. Budd, who had announced a determination to retire from the secretaryship, insisting on attempting to retain him. This gave rise to the voting of two tickets, but the regular ticket was elected and the old board all retained except Mr. Budd, in whose place Mr. J. B. Clarkson was chosen Secretary. Mr. E. C. Fenimore was also added to the Board in place of Wm. R. Cochran, Esq., elected President.

The election for officers followed and, with the exception of a little unpleasantness caused by one of the tellers objecting to receiving the vote of the Newark Grange at the hand of Wm. Dean, who claimed a right to vote on stock certificates which he had, passed off good naturally, but with some little excitement on account of many friends of Mr. Budd, who had announced a determination to retire from the secretaryship, insisting on attempting to retain him. This gave rise to the voting of two tickets, but the regular ticket was elected and the old board all retained except Mr. Budd, in whose place Mr. J. B. Clarkson was chosen Secretary. Mr. E. C. Fenimore was also added to the Board in place of Wm. R. Cochran, Esq., elected President.

The election for officers followed and, with the exception of a little unpleasantness caused by one of the tellers objecting to receiving the vote of the Newark Grange at the hand of Wm. Dean, who claimed a right to vote on stock certificates which he had, passed off good naturally, but with some little excitement on account of many friends of Mr. Budd, who had announced a determination to retire from the secretaryship, insisting on attempting to retain him. This gave rise to the voting of two tickets, but the regular ticket was elected and the old board all retained except Mr. Budd, in whose place Mr. J. B. Clarkson was chosen Secretary. Mr. E. C. Fenimore was also added to the Board in place of Wm. R. Cochran, Esq., elected President.

The election for officers followed and, with the exception of a little unpleasantness caused by one of the tellers objecting to receiving the vote of the Newark Grange at the hand of Wm. Dean, who claimed a right to vote on stock certificates which he had, passed off good naturally, but with some little excitement on account of many friends of Mr. Budd, who had announced a determination to retire from

